



Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra

Weekly Communications

Special points of interest:

- *Featured members:*
Kimberly Bill
- *Young Artist Competition*
- *The Economics of Symphony Orchestras*

Gala Tickets are available for sale each week at rehearsal from 5-7PM. Once you have bought two Gala Tickets at full price, we are offering the 3rd and 4th for a total of \$45. A box will also be available at rehearsal where you can drop off your raffle tickets. Your support is what makes CYSO strong and we thank you!

The Gala invitations are completed and ready to be prepared for mailing. If any of you are willing to volunteer a few hours on Thursday morn-

ing from 9:30-12 or on Thursday evening at rehearsal between 5-9PM to stuff, stamp and address envelopes, let Linda Foss know

Break out of the Winter doldrums and get into the summer camp mode! CYSO has a packet of summer music camps ideas available for you! See Linda Foss at rehearsal.

Finally, my apologies are in order. Some students were inadvertently left off the Honors section of the newsletter despite having made various

bands or orchestras. A belated congratulations to Jennifer Hewitt from the Strings Ensemble who made all county middle school orchestra, Mario Perez who made Towson Honor Band in percussion, Rohini Bahethi who made all county band on clarinet and Matt Burns from the Strings Orchestra who made all county band tuba, and Geoffrey Manyin, a cellist, who was chosen for all-county high school orchestra. Congratulations to all of you. If you have still been left off the list let me know!

Musical Opportunity: Opus Nine Annual Young Artist Competition

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Opus Nine is a dynamic group of young musicians dedicated to infusing chamber music with its own brand of creativity and vitality. Each player has been hand selected for their technical mastery, passionate performance style, and inexhaustible imagination. Trained by the best, Opus Nine produces high caliber musical encounters that arouse and inspire audiences. Presenting chamber works with a freshness and energy that is unmatched-Opus Nine delivers a new musical experience for our era.



Members of Opus Nine

Opus Nine Ensemble is now looking for talented young artists -- composers & instrumentalists. They will be holding their *1st Annual Young Artist Competition*

this year. All CYSO members who are in high school or at a high school equivalent level are encouraged to apply! Prizes include the opportunity to perform

with the Opus Nine Ensemble in New York City this year. The deadline for submission is June 1, 2010. According to the organizers, they guarantee you will have a blast! For more information, check this link: www.yac.opusnine.org

Featured Members: CYSO 2nd Place Concerto Competition Winner, Kimberly Bill

Kimberly Bill, violinist with the Symphony Orchestra, earned a second place win in CYSO's Concerto Competition with her rendition of Mozart's Violin Concerto in G, No. 3, KV 216. As a result of her win, she will perform with the Symphony Orchestra at the Finale Concert in May. In this article, she discusses her love of violin music and references her grandfather, Boris Kim, who is a dedicated CYSO volunteer.

Congratulations, Kimberly!

I have played the violin for nearly seven years. Music is so important to me now because I really enjoy playing. Playing and practicing is the time when I can escape my school work and play my violin music. Also, music is something that my grandfather and I share. He is the one who encouraged me to start the violin

and has always helped me practice to become a better violinist.

I first studied this concerto two years ago with my first teacher Mrs. Roxanne Krigman. I returned to this piece this year because it was on the required repertoire list for the 2009/2010 Landon Symphonette Competition that I entered. My current teacher, Dr. Cathleen Jeffcoat, helped me to polish this piece and prepare it for my competitions. I also performed this work in November at a Master class with Dr. Katherine Murdock at Howard Community College. I love Mozart and how his pieces reflect many moods. Also this piece is one of my favorites because my grandfather and I wrote the cadenza together.



Kimberly Bill, 2nd place winner of the CYSO Concerto Competition

When I performed in front of the judges I was relaxed. I felt that I played one of my best performances. Many talented musicians entered this competition; I am honored to be chosen for 2nd place.

Weekly Insight: Economics of Symphony Orchestras

For those of you who plan to pursue music as a career, it might be both rewarding and profitable, but there are risks and an uncertain future as well. There are now dozens of professional orchestras across the country playing music of unparalleled musical excellence. In the past 50 years, the number of ensembles and orchestras in the United States has grown at a spectacular rate.

Members of CYSO can attest to the tremendous amount of work and dedication it takes to be a good musician and for those lucky enough to eventually play for top tier orchestras, the money can be good. According to a recent Wall Street Journal article (Manshel, January 23, 2010), Conductor Franz Welser-Most of the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra received an annual compensation of \$1.3 million in 2008. Concertmaster William Preucil received a salary of \$414,159.

Average salaries for musicians in the orchestra were about \$140,000. On top of these generous salaries, musicians had 10 weeks of paid vacation and 26 weeks (can't be possible—but taken from the article directly!) of paid sick leave. In the Huffington Post, a commenter noted the base salary of San Francisco Orchestra is \$140,000.

While this all may seem appealing, there is a raging debate about whether this level of compensation is sustainable. Major orchestras are facing budgetary crises, and several have declared bankruptcy in recent years. Managing the expenses of an orchestra in a declining economy can be tricky business. You can't just lay off the trumpet section or half of your violists to manage expenses. The recession had

contributed to both declining ticket sales and corporate sponsorship. Traditionally, ticket sales have not covered the operating cost of orchestras, so orchestras rely heavily on corporate and philanthropic donations to survive. Some orchestras have managed to negotiate across-the-board cuts in compensation—portending a perhaps less generous income in the future for career musicians.

All of this points to the importance of everyone playing their part to keep classical music alive—as the Gala approaches, think about the importance of sustaining future musicians as you work to help us bring in funds for CYSO. Thanks for all you do.



Upcoming Events

Changes may occur in the schedule and updates will be listed in this newsletter and posted to the website.

February 4, 11, 18, 25	Rehearsals for all ensembles	Bates Middle School
February 20-21	Mid-Atlantic Flute Fair	Details TBA
March 4, 11, 18, 25	Rehearsals for all ensembles	Bates Middle School
March 13 Auction 5:30 PM Performance 7 PM	CYSO Gala and Silent Auction	St. John's College, Key Auditorium, Annapolis
March 19 Call time 5 PM Performance 8:00 PM	CYSO Symphony performs with Morgan State Choir and Opera Workshop	Gilliam Concert Hall, Maryland Fine Arts Center, Baltimore
March 20 Performance 3:00 PM	CYSO Spring Concert with String Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Concert Orchestra, and Senior Flute Ensemble	Riva Trace Baptist Church Davidsonville
March 27 Call time 1:45 PM Performance 3:00 PM	CYSO Junior Flute Community Outreach Concert	Ginger Cove
March 28 Call time 1:45 PM Performance 3:00 PM	Preparatory Orchestra	Ginger Cove
April 8 Call time TBA Performance 7:00 PM	Preparatory Orchestra	Arnold Elementary

Concert apparel.

One astute CYSO mother has found a great place to buy concert clothes. [Concertblack.com](http://www.concertblack.com) offers black 3/4 length concert shirts, and is a good place to buy pants and skirts as well. If you have outgrown your concert clothes and need something that fits in time for the Gala, check out <http://www.concertblack.com>.

Thanks to Margaret Taylor - Strings Ensemble member Katherine's mom.



Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra

Contact Information:

Please contact ensemble managers to report all absences as far in advance as possible. Our attendance policy is posted on our website.

Ensemble Managers

Junior Flute Ensemble Gail Vehslage, Conductor

Marian Eisinger – teisinger@comcast.net

Stephani Nicastrì stephnick@comcast.net

Senior Flute Ensemble Gail Vehslage, Conductor

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Wind Ensemble Sandra Balderson, Conductor

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Preparatory Strings William Schacter, Conductor

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Strings Orchestra Rob Stojakovich, Conductor

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Concert Orchestra Vladimir Lande, Conductor

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Symphony Orchestra Julien Benichou, Conductor

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Executive Director Linda Foss —

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Music Director Julien Benichou

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Our office, located at The Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, is staffed from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Tuesday and 10-4:30/ 5-9 Thursdays, September thru May. The room number is 103A, located across the hall and a couple of doors down from the Hard Bean Café.

CYSO follows Anne Arundel County Public Schools closures. In case of inclement weather check www.schoolsout.com or contact the Executive Director at the CYSO hotline (above).

Please send any ideas for articles, photos, or information about member accomplishments to put in this newsletter to: Newsletter Editor Penny Mohr penny.mohr@verizon.net or Assistant Editors: Anna Tayman altayman@aol.com Sarah Elert lilly-pad1012@gmail.com Deadline: Sunday every week.

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We would like this to be a member-driven newsletter. We are seeking members who would like to volunteer to help find and write articles, especially from the Wind Ensemble, Senior Flute Choir, or Symphony Orchestra. Contact

penny.mohr@verizon.net

or see Anna Tayman or Sarah Elert during breaks for the Concert Orchestra.